

**NORMAN ANIMAL WELFARE CENTER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**  
**August 24, 2015**

The Norman Animal Welfare Center Oversight Committee of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in the Multi-Purpose room on the 24th day of August, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. The notice and agenda of the meeting were posted in the Municipal Building at 201 West Gray Street on the 20<sup>th</sup> of August, 2015. The meeting was also posted on the City of Norman website.

**I. CALL TO ORDER.**

Chairperson Mark Howery called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL.**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairperson Mark Howery  
Jayne Crumpley  
Ginger Noble, D.V.M.  
Jennifer Kidney PhD .  
Joe Carter D.V.M  
Kathryn Bierman

**ABSENT:** Councilman Stephen Tyler Holman  
Rebecca Bean

**OTHER PRESENT:**

Jeanne Snider, Assistant City Attorney  
Rick Knighton, Assistant City Attorney  
John Bowman, Animal Welfare Supervisor  
Jim Maisano, Deputy Chief  
Darci Poe, Norman Animal Welfare

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**III. APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 3RD MINUTES**

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Jennifer Kidney and seconded by Jayne Crumply. The motion was carried.

**IV. MONTHLY STATISTICS**

Chairperson Mark Howery said thank you for adding the volunteer hour statistics.

John Bowman said the statistics are now for the beginning of a new fiscal year. John Bowman went over the monthly numbers and categories. He said the Norman Police Department has a new software system, New World, that is the reasoning for the question mark in the statistics and will try to fix that. John Bowman explained the volunteer statistics report and went over those numbers. Chairperson Mark Howery said he appreciates all the details. John Bowman said Animal Welfare started using the Chameleon software in September 2012; if there are other sub categories the committee would like to see added to be tracked, please let him know.

Chairperson Mark Howery asked if there were any questions. Kate Bierman said she noticed on the statistics that parvo is tracked. She asked if heartworm was tracked. John Bowman said it is tracked but there were none with heartworm during this period, so that is why none is shown. He said he would double check to be sure though.

**V. CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

Deputy Chief Maisano said they had their weekly construction meeting earlier today. He said the slab is poured and set. The masons are there doing the outer and inner walls. The electrician and the plumber are there with them roughing in the electrical and plumbing that goes inside the walls. They can do about four feet at a time, then they have to stop and pour the bond beam to put that concrete in, and then they will come back and do another four foot section. Things are progressing. He said they anticipate one to two weeks to finish the masonry, and then they can set the steel for the roof. Chairperson Mark Howery said that is great news. Deputy Chief Maisano said there was a one day delay due to rain to pour the slab but they were able to come back the next day to pour the slab. Jennifer Kidney said that if you haven't been to the Animal Welfare Center yet, it is really nice, and the glass doors make all the difference with the noise. She said it is much quieter.

**VI. CITY ORDINANCE UPDATE**

Deputy Chief Maisano said it should go first to the City Council Oversight committee, which is responsible for reviewing ordinances; then it would go to a city council study session, and then eventually a first read and then a second read at the City Council. Assistant Attorney Jeanne Snider said that the oversight meeting is set tentatively for September 17<sup>th</sup>.

Deputy Chief Maisano went over the questions that were asked at the last meeting in regard to the ordinances.

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Kate Bierman asked, regarding the euthanizing of dangerous dogs in an owner surrender situation, if we just take the owners at their word. Deputy Chief Maisano said there will be a form developed for the owner to declare the dog dangerous or ill. Deputy Chief Maisano said we initially did not want to do that for the public; we wanted to refer them to the veterinarians to have it done. He said after the meetings that we have had some of the veterinarians and welfare groups said they felt that we had an obligation to do that. Kate Bierman asked if there was going to be any behavioral testing or a hold time for that animal. Deputy Chief Maisano said no, due the liability. Kate Bierman said her concern is that would be an easy out for people if they didn't need proof to show the dog was dangerous. Chairperson Mark Howery said that may be a category that we could track on the Chameleon report, declaring them dangerous or ill.

Kate Bierman had a question about a foster home having a nuisance animal they are fostering for behavior issues and if someone complains about that animal as a nuisance, how is that handled. Deputy Chief Maisano said right now there is only a foster to adopt program. He said a citizen has the right to sign a complaint. He said an Animal Welfare Officer would talk to both parties. If the person is not home, the officer will leave a note on the door to contact Animal Welfare. He said usually those things get worked out between the neighbors. Assistant City Attorney Jeanne Snider explained the mediation process. Chairperson Mark Howery asked if the person could appeal. Assistant City Attorney Jeanne Snider explained how the appeal would work. Assistant City Attorney Rick Knighton said he has been here for 17 years and a half, and they have never ordered a dog be euthanized.

Dr. Joe Carter asked if the snake section outlaws just venomous names, not all snakes. Deputy Chief Maisano said that is correct. Chairperson Mark Howery asked if we could develop a permit process for such animals as the ball python--obviously not by this September but maybe in the future. Dr. Joe Carter said that maybe in the future we could have a study session with public input regarding cats being at large and the ball python topic. Kate Bierman said that would put us on a strong footing with the public. Chairperson Mark Howery said he understands it from the Animal Welfare Officer perspective. Kate Bierman said she also understands the difficulty in caring for them. Deputy Chief Maisano said snakes are hard to identify on the enforcement side and that is why it is left the way it is for now.

Chairperson Mark Howery asked whether the microchip does not replace the city pet license. Deputy Chief Maisano said that is correct; however, they must display the city pet license to the Animal Welfare Officer. Chairperson Mark Howery said he just wanted clarification on the wording.

Dr. Joe Carter motioned to accept the amendments to the ordinance. Jayne Crumpley seconded. All agreed to approve the amendments.

## **VII. MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS**

John Bowman went over the spay/neuter flyers that were handed out, Best Friends of Pets, and the funding for the program. Kate Bierman asked if we could advertise this on any television stations. John Bowman yes if we can; we would like to spread the word.

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John Bowman said that Monday August 17<sup>th</sup> was National Microchip Day, and we had seven people come in to get their animal microchipped and several emailed us to update their pet's information.

Kate Bierman said she attended her orientation for volunteering. She said she heard that orientation and training were going to be combined, and she was happy to hear that. She asked if anyone had gotten in touch with Adam Beatty about videoing training sessions. John Bowman said that city legal was talked to about videos and the issue is who controls it after videoed. Kate Bierman said if he donates his services to you, then the city would own it. She said it could be helpful. Kate said Oklahoma City Animal Welfare has short videos on their YouTube channel. Kate said that Moore Animal Welfare has volunteers from the Target in Moore, and perhaps we should do that.

Bobby Stevens said thank you for all that you do. He asked if trains coming through and sirens were taken into consideration with the nuisance dog section. He also said November will be here soon and he wanted to know how long a dead deer would lay on the highway before being picked up. Deputy Chief Maisano said Animal Welfare does not call out off duty officers to pick up dead animals due to the overtime pay and per the city's risk manager that two Animal Welfare Officers have to pick up large animals. He said if a dead animal is called in on Friday, it may be there until Monday morning.

Lynne Miller said it has been five months since she attended these meetings and it seems a lot has been worked out. She asked about the frequency of going to municipal court with vicious animals and dog bites. Deputy Chief Maisano said there was no enforcement in place, but now it is written in to be researched with the totality of the situation within 10 days. He said the judge is the one who makes the determination if it is a dangerous animal or not. If it is dangerous, the person would have to follow the dangerous animal ordinance. Deputy Chief Maisano said since 2009 we have only had six incidences.

Bobby Stevens asked if an animal is picked up; does the city get compensation from picking them up on a state highway? Deputy Chief Maisano answered that is not correct.

Deputy Chief Maisano said please get your pet microchipped and spayed or neutered so we can get them back to you and not have any unwanted litters.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chairperson Mark Howery; it was seconded by Kate Bierman. The motion was carried at 7:19 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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**Mark Howery -Chairperson**

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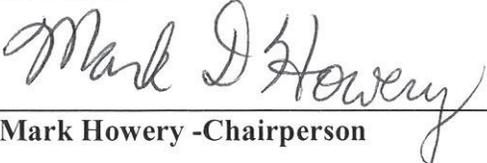
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